DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

(Joint Inventors)

we, Paul Metcalfe, Craig A. Homberg, and Walter G. Lockard, hereby declare that we are respectively.

a citizen of the United States, residing at 35235 Quartermane Circle, Bentleyville Village, Solon, Ohio 44139-2469;

a citizen of the United States, residing at 1617 Chestnut Blvd., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223;

a citizen of the United States, residing at 147 Hudson Street, Hudson, Ohio 44236;

that we have reviewed and understand the content of the attached specification, including the claims (Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue Docket No. 427600800004), and we believe that we are the original, first, and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed therein and for which a patent is sought on the invention or discovery entitled

COUPLING ASSEMBLY HAVING ENHANCED AXIAL TENSION STRENGTH AND METHOD OF INSTALLATION OF COUPLED UNDERGROUND DUCT

and that we acknowledge our duty to disclose information of which we are aware which is material to the examination of this application, in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a).

We hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of United States Provisional Application Serial No. 60/071,159 filed January 12, 1998.

We hereby designate the following as our mailing address and telephone number:

F. Drexel Feeling, Esq.
Jones Day, Reavis & Pogue
North Point
901 Lakeside Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
(216) 586-3939

and appoint each of the following as our attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

F. Drexel Feeling; Registration No. 40,602; Kenneth R. Adamo, Registration No. 27,299; Barbara Arndt, Registration No. 37,768; David B. Cochran, Registration No. 39,142; Cheryl L.

Farine, Registration No. 36,796; Regan J. Fay, Registration No. 26,878; Calvin P. Griffith, Registration No. 34,831; Paul V. Keller, Registration No. 42,713; David M. Maiorana, Registration No. 41,449; Timothy J. O'Hearn, Registration No. 31,552; Jay Ryan, Registration No. 37,064; Stephen D. Scanlon, Registration No. 32,755; Barry L. Springel, Registration No. 25,514; H. Duane Switzer, Registration No. 22,431; Michael W. Vary, Registration No. 30,811; and James L. Wamsley, III, Registration No. 31,578

all having the above-designated address.

We further declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

| Der Truf | | Date _ | 1-8-99 |
|--|--|---------|-----------------|
| Paul Metcalfe | | | |
| Post Office Address: | 35235 Quartermane Circle Bentleyville Village, Solon, (| Ohio 44 | 139-2469 |
| | 7 | Date _ | 1-8-99 |
| Craig A. Homberg | | | |
| Post Office Address: | 1617 Chestnut Road Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223 | 3 | |
| <u> Maltu S. Joul</u> Walter G. Lockard | earcl | Date _ | January 8, 1989 |
| Post Office Address: | 147 Hudson Street | | |

Hudson, Ohio 44236



37 CFR 3.73(B) Statement

Attached is a copy of the Assignment of the previous application showing the chain of title from the inventors to the assignee.

Attorney (Agent) for Assignee







ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS Washington, D.C. 20231



JONES DAY, TEMANTS & POQUE F. DREXEL FEELING, ESQ. 901 LAKESIDE AVENUE NORTH POINT CLEVELAND, OH 44114.

APRIL

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE NOTICE OF RECORDATION OF ASSIGNMENT DOCUMENT

THE ENCLOSED DOCUMENT HAS BEEN RECORDED BY THE ASSIGNMENT DIVISION OF THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE. A COMPLETE MICROFILM COPY IS AVAILABLE AT THE ASSIGNMENT SEARCH ROOM ON THE REEL AND FRAME NUMBER REFERENCED BELOW.

PLEASE REVIEW ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS NOTICE. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS RECORDATION NOTICE REFLECTS THE DATA PRESENT IN THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK ASSIGNMENT SYSTEM. IF YOU SHOULD FIND ANY ERRORS OR HAVE QUESTIONS CONCERNING THIS NOTICE, YOU MAY CONTACT THE EMPLOYEE WHOSE NAME APPEARS ON THIS NOTICE AT 703-308-9723. PLEASE SEND REQUEST FOR CORRECTION TO: U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, ASSIGNMENT DIVISION, BOX ASSIGNMENTS, CG-4, 1213 JEFFERSON DAVIS HWY, SUITE 320, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.

RECORDATION DATE: 01/12/1999

REEL/FRAME: 9714/0259

NUMBER OF PAGES: 5

BRIEF: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNOR'S INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

ASSIGNOR:

METCALFE, PAUL

DOC DATE: 01/08/1999

ASSIGNOR:

HOMBERG, CRAIG A.

DOC DATE: 01/08/1999

ASSIGNOR:

LOCKARD, WALTER G.

DOC DATE: 01/08/1999

ASSIGNEE:

LAMSON & SESSIONS CO., THE 25701 SCIENCE PARK DRIVE CLEVELAND, OHIO 44122

SERIAL NUMBER: 09228845

PATENT NUMBER:

FILING DATE: 01/12/1999

ISSUE DATE:



9714/0259 PAGE 2

SHARON LATIMER, EXAMINER ASSIGNMENT DIVISION OFFICE OF PUBLIC RECORDS

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01-28-199 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FORM PTO-1595 हें ECORDAT Patent and Trademark Offic-(Rev. 6-93) OMB No. 0651-0011 (exp. 4/5 427600800004 100953133 Tab settings □ □ To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof. 2. Name and address of receiving party(ies) 1. Name of conveying party(ies): Paul Metcalfe Name: The Lamson & Sessions Co. Craig A. Homberg Walter G. Lockard Internal Address:___ Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?

Yes
No 3. Nature of conveyance: Street Address:____ □ Merger XX Assignment 25701 Science Park Drive □ Change of Name □ Security Agreement ZIP: 44122 City: Cleveland State: OH Other ___ Execution Date: January 8, 1999 Additional name(s) & address(es) attached?

Yes

No Application number(s) or patent number(s): If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: 1-8-99B. Patent No.(s) A. Patent Application No.(s) Additional numbers attached?

Yes XX No 6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed: 7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$ 40.00 F. Drexel Feeling, Esq. MANGE MERS & Pogue 5/1999 TDADE1 Internal Address:_ X) Enclosed 40.00 OP C:581 □ Authorized to be charged to deposit account Street Address: North Point 8. Deposit account number: 901 Lakeside Avenue 10-1202 [for any deficiency in fees] (Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account) City: Cleveland State: OH ZIP: 44114 DO NOT USE THIS SPACE 9. Statement and signature. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy or

Signature

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document:

the original document.

Deborah A. Satoran

Name of Person Signing

ASSIGNMENT (Joint)

WHEREAS, new and useful improvements and inventions have been made by the undersigned

COUPLING ASSEMBLY HAVING ENHANCED AXIAL TENSION STRENGTH AND METHOD OF INSTALLATION OF COUPLED UNDERGROUND DUCT

and are the subject of a patent application prepared for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and executed by the undersigned on the dates indicated below in the appropriate spaces to the right of the signatures of the undersigned, which application is further identified as Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue Docket No. 427600800004.

WHEREAS, The Lamson & Sessions Co., a corporation of the State of Ohio, and having a place of business at 25701 Science Park Drive, Cleveland, Ohio 44122, hereinafter referred to as "assignee", is desirous of acquiring all right, title, and interest throughout the world in, to, and under said improvements and inventions and patent rights therefor.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it known that, for valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, all right, title, and interest, in the United States and throughout the world, in, to and under said improvements and inventions and all patents, patent applications, patent rights, and inventor's certificates thereof, therefor, and therein, including without limitation said application for patent in the United States, all divisions and continuations thereof, all patents which may be granted thereon, all reissues and extensions thereof, all right to sue for past infringement thereunder, all patents which may be granted for said improvements and inventions by states or nations other than the United States, or by other authority, entity, or organization, and all applications therefor, have been and are hereby sold, assigned, transferred, and delivered unto assignee, its successors and assigns; and it is covenanted and agreed by the undersigned, and for executors, administrators, and legal representatives of the undersigned, that at assignee's request any and all applications, affidavits, assignments, and other instruments will be made, executed, and delivered as may be necessary, or desirable to secure for or vest in assignee, its successors or assigns, any improvement, inventions, right, title, interest, application, patent, patent right or other right or property covered by this assignment, and the United States Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is hereby requested and authorized to issue any and all United States patents granted on any of said applications to assignee as owner of the entire right, title, and interest in, to, and under the same, and appropriately empowered officials of foreign countries are hereby authorized to issue any letters patent granted on any of said applications to assignee as owner of the entire right, title, and interest in, to, and under the same.

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PT602

in

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this assignment has been executed below by the undersigned:

| T. IR. M. | 1— | 1-8-99 |
|---------------|----|-------------------------------|
| Paul Metcalfe | | Date I signed this assignment |

Date I signed Declaration or Oath

Post Office Address:

35235 Quartermane Circle Bentleyville Village, Solon, Ohio 44139-2469

Craig A. Homberg

Date I signed this assignment

Date I signed Declaration or Oath

Post Office Address:

1617 Chestnut Blvd.

Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223

Walter G. Lockard

gan. 8, 1999

District Out

Post Office Address:

147 Hudson Street

Hudson, Ohio 44236

| STATE OF OHIO | $\Big\}_{SS.}$ | |
|---|-------------------------|--|
| COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA |) | |
| The above named Paul Metcalfe, 1999, and acknowledge and deed for the uses and purposes there | ed that the foregoing | ared before me this <u>f</u> day of g instrument was executed as his free act |
| (Notarial Seal) | Notary Public | ROSE MARIE MELFI Notary Public, State of Ohio, Lake Cty. My Commission Expires July 23, 2002 |
| STATE OF OHIO COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA | } ss. | |
| The above named Craig A. Hom Avaluate 1999, and acknowledged to deed for the uses and purposes therein se | that the foregoing inst | appeared before me this <u>\$\int\{\text{}}\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\</u> |
| | Notary Public | ine melf |
| (Notarial Seal) | | ROSE MARIE MELFI Notary Public, State of Ohio, Lake Cty. My Commission Expires July 23, 2002 |

Page 3 of 4

STATE OF OHIO

COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA

SS.

The above named Walter G. Lockard, known to me, appeared before me this <u>and solver the second of the uses and purposes therein set forth.</u>

The above named Walter G. Lockard, known to me, appeared before me this <u>and second of the uses and purposes therein set forth.</u>

Notary Public

(Notarial Seal)

ROSE MARIE MELFI Notary Public, State of Ohio, Lake Cty. My Commission Expires July 23, 2002